

§ 26.64

equivalence of standards or technical regulations.

§ 26.64 Transitional arrangements.

The parties agree to implement the transitional commitments on confidence building as specified in subparts A and B of this part.

(a) The parties agree that each sectoral transitional arrangement shall specify a time period for completion.

(b) The parties may amend any transitional arrangement by mutual agreement.

(c) Passage from the transitional phase to the operational phase shall proceed as specified in subparts A and B of this part, unless either party documents that the conditions provided in such subpart for a successful transition are not met.

§ 26.65 Designating authorities.

The parties shall ensure that the designating authorities specified in subpart B of this part have the power and competence in their respective territories to carry out decisions under this part to designate, monitor, suspend, remove suspension of, or withdraw conformity assessment bodies (CAB's).

§ 26.66 Designation and listing procedures.

The following procedures shall apply with regard to the designation of conformity assessment bodies (CAB's) and the inclusion of such bodies in the list of CAB's in subpart B of this part:

(a) The designating authority identified in subpart B of this part shall designate CAB's in accordance with the procedures and criteria set forth in subpart B of this part;

(b) A party proposing to add a CAB to the list of such bodies in subpart B of this part shall forward its proposal of one or more designated CAB's in writing to the other party with a view to a decision by the Joint Committee;

(c) Within 60 days following receipt of the proposal, the other party shall indicate its position regarding either its confirmation or its opposition. Upon confirmation, the inclusion in subpart B of this part of the proposed CAB or CAB's shall take effect; and

(d) In the event that the other party contests on the basis of documented

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evidence the technical competence or compliance of a proposed CAB, or indicates in writing that it requires an additional 30 days to more fully verify such evidence, such CAB shall not be included on the list of CAB's in subpart B of this part. In this instance, the Joint Committee may decide that the body concerned be verified. After the completion of such verification, the proposal to list the CAB in subpart B may be resubmitted to the other party.

§ 26.67 Suspension of listed conformity assessment bodies.

The following procedures shall apply with regard to the suspension of a conformity assessment body (CAB) listed in subpart B of this part.

(a) A party shall notify the other party of its contestation of the technical competence or compliance of a CAB listed in subpart B of this part and the contesting party's intent to suspend such CAB. Such contestation shall be exercised when justified in an objective and reasoned manner in writing to the other party;

(b) The CAB shall be given prompt notice by the other party and an opportunity to present information in order to refute the contestation or to correct the deficiencies which form the basis of the contestation;

(c) Any such contestation shall be discussed between the parties in the Joint Sectoral Committee described in subpart B of this part. If there is no Joint Sectoral Committee, the contesting party shall refer the matter directly to the Joint Committee. If agreement to suspend is reached by the Joint Sectoral Committee or, if there is no Joint Sectoral Committee, by the Joint Committee, the CAB shall be suspended;

(d) Where the Joint Sectoral Committee or Joint Committee decides that verification of technical competence or compliance is required, it shall normally be carried out in a timely manner by the party in whose territory the body in question is located, but may be carried out jointly by the parties in justified cases;

(e) If the matter has not been resolved by the Joint Sectoral Committee within 10 days of the notice of